

This Track 1 Decision Document is marked "Draft" but is a final document signed by the agencies.

NSA

date 5/23/2002

kw

DOE/ID-10917

July 2001

RECEIVED

SEP 04 2001

**DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
TECHNICAL SERVICES OFFICE**

***Site 014 Track 1 Decision Documentation
Package, OU 10-08***

**DECISION DOCUMENTATION PACKAGE
COVER SHEET**

Prepared in accordance with

TRACK 1 SITES:
GUIDANCE FOR ASSESSING
LOW PROBABILITY HAZARD SITES
AT THE INEEL

Site Description: Debris in the Big Lost River Sinks Area

Site ID: 014

Operable Unit: 10-08

Waste Area Group: 10

I. Summary – Physical Description of the Site:

This site consists of a small amount of debris abandoned in an open field located along the western boundary line of the INEEL, 300 yds south of Highway 33 in the Big Lost River Sinks Area. The debris includes five weathered, wooden fence posts and smaller pieces of wood wrapped in barbed wire, likely related to former farming or livestock activities on the INEEL. The nearest facility is Test Area North (TAN), located approximately 10 miles northeast of Site 014.

The site was originally listed as part of an environmental baseline assessment in 1994 and identified as a potential new waste site in 1995. In accordance with Management Control Procedure-3448, "Reporting or Disturbance of Suspected Inactive Waste Sites," a new site identification form was completed for this site. As part of the process, a field team wrote a site description, and collected photographs and global positioning system (GPS) coordinates of the site (the GPS coordinates are E313336.578 by N775826.357). The GPS coordinate system is listed as North American Datum 27, Idaho East Zone, State Plane Coordinates.

The new site identification process also included a search and review of existing historical documentation. Very little information is available about this site. INEEL Cultural Resource personnel stated that the weathered wood and wire are likely thirty to forty years old. The debris is related to former cattle or sheep livestock operations located on INEEL property, but unrelated to INEEL operations. The area is located next to the western border of the INEEL near the Big Lost River Sinks that has served as a grazing area in the past.

There is no visual evidence of hazardous constituents, nor evidence that waste has recently been disposed of at this site. There is no evidence of disturbed vegetation, stained or discolored soil, or odors. The ground surface shows well-established native grasses and sagebrush. The description of the site conditions are based on recent site investigations and research; no field screening or sample data exist for this site.

DECISION RECOMMENDATION**II. SUMMARY – Qualitative Assessment of Risk:**

There is no evidence that a source of contamination exists at this site, nor is there empirical, circumstantial or other evidence of contaminant migration. The reliability of information provided in this report is high. Field investigations, interviews with Cultural Resource personnel and photographs reveal no visual evidence of hazardous substances that may present a danger to human health or the environment. Therefore, the overall qualitative risk at Site 014 is considered low.

III. SUMMARY – Consequences of Error:**False Negative Error:**

The possibility of contaminant levels at this site being above risk-based limits is remote. Field investigations and visual observations of the debris and surface soil showed no evidence of hazardous constituents, stained soil, odors, loss of vegetation, fibrous materials, or other indications of contamination.

False Positive Error:

If further action were completed at this low risk site, funds could exceed the environmental benefit. Surface soil sampling and analysis for organic compounds, metals, radionuclides and other hazardous constituents would be needed to confirm the presence or absence of contamination. Based on existing information, there is no need for further action at this site.

IV. SUMMARY – Other Decision Drivers:

No other decision drivers are applicable for this site.

Recommended Action:

It is recommended that this newly identified site be classified as No Further Action. Field investigations, interviews with personnel having historical knowledge of the INEEL, and photographs indicate it is highly unlikely that hazardous or radioactive materials were generated or disposed of at this site. It is located in a remote, abandoned area with no viable pathways or receptors. TAN is the closest facility located approximately 10 miles away. There is nothing present at this site that would indicate evidence of contaminant migration, or historical or threatened release of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants. This site contains waste related to livestock operations that does not pose a potential risk to human health or the environment.

Signatures:**# Pages:** 16**Date:** July 27, 2001**Prepared By:** Tom Haney**DOE WAG Manager:** Glenn Nelson**Approved By:** [Signature]**Independent Review:** [Signature]

**DECISION STATEMENT
(DOE RPM)**

Date Received: 3/18/02

Disposition:

There is no evidence of industrial chemical contamination at site 014. The materials found are consistent with the use of the area around the Big Lost River Sinks for grazing of livestock. No further remedial action is required.

Date: 4/02/02

Pages: 1

Name: Kathleen Hain

Signature: Kathleen E Hain

DECISION STATEMENT
(EPA RPM)

Date Received:

9/4/01

10-08-014

Disposition:

Based on photographic evidence and location of site there appears no basis to conclude that hazardous substances are present or further remedial investigation is necessary

Date:

9/20/01

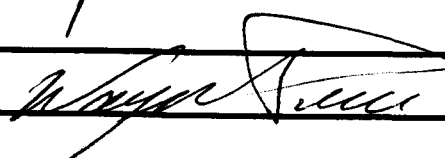
Pages:

1

Name:

Wayne Pierre

Signature:



**DECISION STATEMENT
(IDEQ RPM)**

Date Received: September 4, 2001

Disposition:

Site #014

Site #014 is an area of debris located by the Big Lost River Sinks about 10 miles southwest of TAN. The debris consists of old fence posts and old barbed wire probably related to former livestock operations in the area. There is no evidence of hazardous constituents or waste being disposed in the area nor is there evidence of stained soils to suggest the presence of contamination that would warrant action. The state concurs this is a **no further action** site.

Date: 2/6/02

Pages:

Name:

Dean T. Nygard

Signature:

Dean T. Nygard

PROCESS/WASTE WORKSHEET		
SITE ID: 014		PROCESS: Debris in the Big Lost River Sinks Area
		WASTE: Weathered wood, barbed wire
Col 1 Processes Associated with this Site	Col 2 Waste Description & Handling Procedures	Col 3 Description & Location of any Artifacts/Structures/Disposal Areas Associated with this Waste or Process
Abandoned fencing left in open field from former livestock operations (unrelated to INEEL operations).	Weathered wood and barbed wire left in field following past grazing operations at the INEEL.	<p>Artifact: Weathered wood, barbed wire</p> <p>Location: Along the western boundary line 300 yds south of Highway 33 in the Big Lost River Sinks Area</p> <p>Description: Surface debris includes five timbers (fence posts) and a few smaller pieces of wood wrapped in barbed wire</p>

CONTAMINANT WORKSHEET					
SITE ID: 014		PROCESS: Debris in Big Lost River Sinks Area			
		WASTE: Weathered wood, barbed wire			
Col 4 What Known/Potential Hazardous Substance/Constituents are Associated with this Waste or Process?	Col 5 Potential Sources Associated with this Hazardous Material	Col 6 Known/Estimated Concentration of Hazardous Substances/Constituents	Col 7 Risk-based Concentration	Col 8 Qualitative Risk Assessment (high/med/low)	Col 9 Overall Reliability (high/med/low)
None	Soil	None	NA	Low	High

Question 1. What are the waste generation processes, locations, and dates of operation associated with this site?

Block 1 Answer:

Debris consisting of five weathered wooden fence posts and smaller pieces of wood wrapped in barbed wire was abandoned in an open area in the Big Lost River Sinks Area, along the western boundary of the INEEL. The debris likely resulted from grazing or other livestock activities on INEEL property; however, were not related to INEEL operations. Cultural Resources estimates the artifacts are at least 30-40 years old. The nearest facility is TAN, located approximately 10 miles northeast of Site 014.

Block 2 How reliable are the information sources? ☒ High ☐ Med ☐ Low
Explain the reasoning behind this evaluation. (check one)

Interviews with INEEL Cultural Resource and Environmental Baseline Assessment personnel revealed that the debris likely resulted from a farming or livestock operation. Artifacts found at the site are old, weathered, agricultural in nature and unrelated to INEEL operations.

Block 3 Has this INFORMATION been confirmed? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe the confirmation. (check one)

Interviews, site investigations, and photographs confirm the historical use and nature of the debris and present site conditions.

Block 4 Sources of Information (check appropriate box(es) & source number from reference list)

No Available Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Analytical Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anecdotal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2,5	Documentation about Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historical Process Data	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disposal Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Current Process Data	<input type="checkbox"/>	QA Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Photographs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3	Safety Analysis Report	<input type="checkbox"/>
Engineering/Site Drawings	<input type="checkbox"/>	D&D Report	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unusual Occurrence Report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Initial Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4
Summary Documents	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility SOPs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Construction Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Question 2. What are the disposal processes, locations, and dates of operation associated with this site? How was the waste disposed?

Block 1 Answer:

Debris was abandoned in an open area in the Big Lost River Sinks Area, along the western boundary of the INEEL. The weathered wood and barbed wire fencing material likely resulted from grazing or other livestock activities on INEEL property; however, these activities were not related to INEEL operations. Cultural Resources personnel estimates the artifacts are at least 30-40 years old. The nearest facility is TAN, located approximately 10 miles northeast of Site 014.

Block 2 How reliable are the information sources? ☒ High ☐ Med ☐ Low
Explain the reasoning behind this evaluation. (check one)

Interviews with INEEL Cultural Resource and Environmental Baseline Assessment personnel revealed that the debris likely resulted from a farming or livestock operation. Artifacts found at the site are old, weathered, agricultural in nature and unrelated to INEEL operations.

Block 3 Has this INFORMATION been confirmed? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe the confirmation. (check one)

Interviews, site investigations, and photographs confirm the historical use and nature of the debris and present site conditions.

Block 4 Sources of Information (check appropriate box(es) & source number from reference list)

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Summary Documents	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility SOPs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Construction Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Question 3. Is there evidence that a source exists at this site? If so, list the sources and describe the evidence.

Block 1 Answer:

There is no evidence that a source exists at Site 014. There is no evidence of hazardous constituents, disturbed vegetation, stained or discolored soil, or odor. The debris has been identified as being old fencing material, agricultural in nature, likely abandoned by early homesteaders or farmers, and unrelated to INEEL operations.

Block 2 How reliable are the information sources? ☒ High ☐ Med ☐ Low
Explain the reasoning behind this evaluation. (check one)

Interviews with Cultural Resource personnel confirmed that the debris is related to former livestock or farming operations, is 30-40 yrs old, unrelated to INEEL operations, and poses no potential threat to human health or the environment.

Block 3 Has this INFORMATION been confirmed? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe the confirmation. (check one)

Interviews, site investigations, and photographs confirm the historical use and nature of the debris and present site conditions.

Block 4 Sources of Information (check appropriate box(es) & source number from reference list)

No Available Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Analytical Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anecdotal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2,5	Documentation about Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Summary Documents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	Well Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility SOPs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Construction Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Question 4. Is there empirical, circumstantial, or other evidence of migration? If so, what is it?

Block 1 Answer:

There is no evidence of migration at Site 014. Site investigations reveal no visual evidence of hazardous constituents, disturbed, stained or discolored soil areas, or odors. The vegetation appears to be well established. Cultural Resources confirmed that this site contains old fencing material resulting from former agricultural or livestock operations, unrelated to INEEL operations.

Block 2 How reliable are the information sources? ☒ High ☐ Med ☐ Low
Explain the reasoning behind this evaluation. (check one)

Visual site inspections and photographs of the site show that vegetation is well established, the artifacts are old remnants of fencing material, and unrelated to INEEL operations.

Block 3 Has this INFORMATION been confirmed? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe the confirmation. (check one)

This information was confirmed through site inspections, Cultural Resource interviews, and photographs of the area showing the debris and present condition of the site.

Block 4 Sources of Information (check appropriate box(es) & source number from reference list)

No Available Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Analytical Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anecdotal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2,5	Documentation about Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Engineering/Site Drawings	<input type="checkbox"/>	D&D Report	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unusual Occurrence Report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Initial Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4
Summary Documents	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility SOPs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Construction Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Question 5. Does site operating or disposal historical information allow estimation of the pattern of potential contamination? If the pattern is expected to be a scattering of hot spots, what is the expected minimum size of a significant hot spot?

Block 1 Answer:

There is no expected pattern of potential contamination because there is no evidence of hazardous substances at the site. There is no evidence of stained or discolored soil, odors, or visual evidence of disturbed vegetation. Based on site investigations and interviews with Cultural Resource personnel, there is no reason to suspect that hazardous constituents are present at this site.

Block 2 How reliable are the information sources? ☒ High ☐ Med ☐ Low
Explain the reasoning behind this evaluation. (check one)

This information was obtained from a 1994 environmental baseline assessment, site investigation, and interviews with Cultural Resource personnel. Photographs taken during the investigation show the artifacts and present description of the site.

Block 3 Has this INFORMATION been confirmed? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe the confirmation. (check one)

This information was confirmed through site inspections, Cultural Resource interviews, and photographs of the area showing the debris and present condition of the site.

Block 4 Sources of Information (check appropriate box(es) & source number from reference list)

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Summary Documents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	Well Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility SOPs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Construction Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Question 6. Estimate the length, width, and depth of the contaminated region. What is the known or estimated volume of the source? If this is an estimated volume, explain carefully how the estimate was derived.

Block 1 Answer:

There is no evidence of a source at this site. Investigations and photographs indicate that the debris was found scattered in several places in a large open field. Artifacts consist of five large fence posts (approximately 4 ft tall by 8 in. circumference) and a few smaller pieces of wood wrapped with barbed wire. There is no visual evidence of hazardous constituents, disturbed, stained or discolored soil areas, or odors. The vegetation appears to be well established.

Block 2 How reliable are the information sources? ☒ High ☐ Med ☐ Low
Explain the reasoning behind this evaluation. (check one)

This information was obtained from a 1994 environmental baseline assessment, site investigation, and interviews with Cultural Resource personnel. Photographs taken during the investigation show the artifacts and present description of the site.

Block 3 Has this INFORMATION been confirmed? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe the confirmation. (check one)

This information was confirmed through site inspections, interviews, and photographs.

Block 4 Sources of Information (check appropriate box(es) & source number from reference list)

No Available Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Analytical Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anecdotal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2,5	Documentation about Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historical Process Data	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disposal Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Unusual Occurrence Report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Initial Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4
Summary Documents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	Well Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility SOPs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Construction Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Question 7. What is the known or estimated quantity of hazardous substance/constituent at this source? If the quantity is an estimate, explain carefully how the estimate was derived.

Block 1 Answer:

The estimated quantity of hazardous substances/constituents at this site is zero because there is no evidence of any hazardous materials present. The site consists of abandoned fencing material resulting from agricultural or livestock operations. Artifacts include five fence posts and smaller pieces of wood wrapped with barbed wire scattered within a large open field. As confirmed by INEEL Cultural Resource personnel, the fencing is old and not related to INEEL operations.

Block 2 How reliable are the information sources? ☒ High ☐ Med ☐ Low
Explain the reasoning behind this evaluation. (check one)

This information was obtained from a 1994 environmental baseline assessment, site investigation, and interviews with Cultural Resource personnel. Photographs taken during the investigation show the artifacts and present description of the site.

Block 3 Has this INFORMATION been confirmed? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe the confirmation. (check one)

This information was confirmed through site inspections, interviews, and photographs.

Block 4 Sources of Information (check appropriate box(es) & source number from reference list)

No Available Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Analytical Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anecdotal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2,5	Documentation about Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Unusual Occurrence Report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Initial Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4
Summary Documents	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility SOPs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Construction Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Question 8. Is there evidence that this hazardous substance/constituent is present at the source as it exists today? If so, describe the evidence.

Block 1 Answer:

There is no evidence that a hazardous substance or constituent is present at levels that require action at this site. Cultural Resource personnel confirm that the debris resulted from former livestock or agricultural operations unrelated to the INEEL. Artifacts consist of five weathered wooden fence posts and some smaller pieces of wood wrapped with barbed wire scattered in an open field. There is no visual evidence of disturbed, stained or discolored soil, and vegetation appears to be well established with native grasses.

Block 2 How reliable are the information sources? ☒ High ☐ Med ☐ Low
Explain the reasoning behind this evaluation. (check one)

This evaluation is based on interviews, site visitations and photographs of the area. There is no evidence of hazardous constituents.

Block 3 Has this INFORMATION been confirmed? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe the confirmation. (check one)

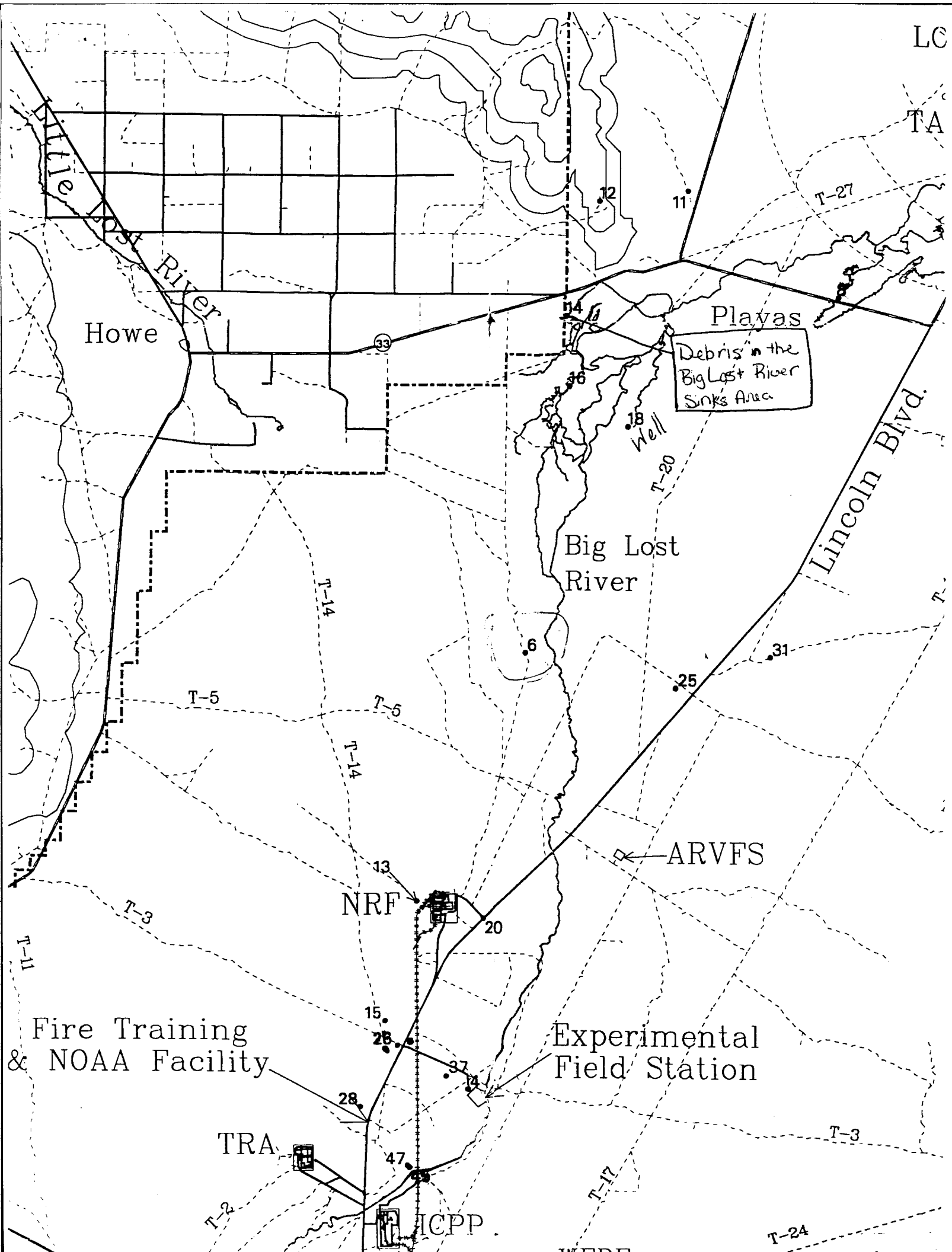
This information was confirmed through site inspections, Cultural Resource historical research, and photographs.

Block 4 Sources of Information (check appropriate box(es) & source number from reference list)

No Available Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Analytical Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anecdotal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2,5	Documentation about Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Summary Documents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	Well Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility SOPs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Construction Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

REFERENCES

1. DOE, 1992, Track 1 Sites: Guidance for Assessing Low Probability Sites at the INEL, DOE/ID-10390 (92), Revision 1, U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Falls, Idaho, July.
2. Interview with an Environmental Baseline Assessment team member, February 6-7, 2001.
3. Photographs of Site 014: PN99-0556-1-1, PN99-0556-1-3.
4. FY 1999 WAG 10 Newly Identified Sites, Volumes I and II.
5. Interviews with Brenda Ringe Pace, INEEL Cultural Resources Management, February 7 and May 16, 2001.

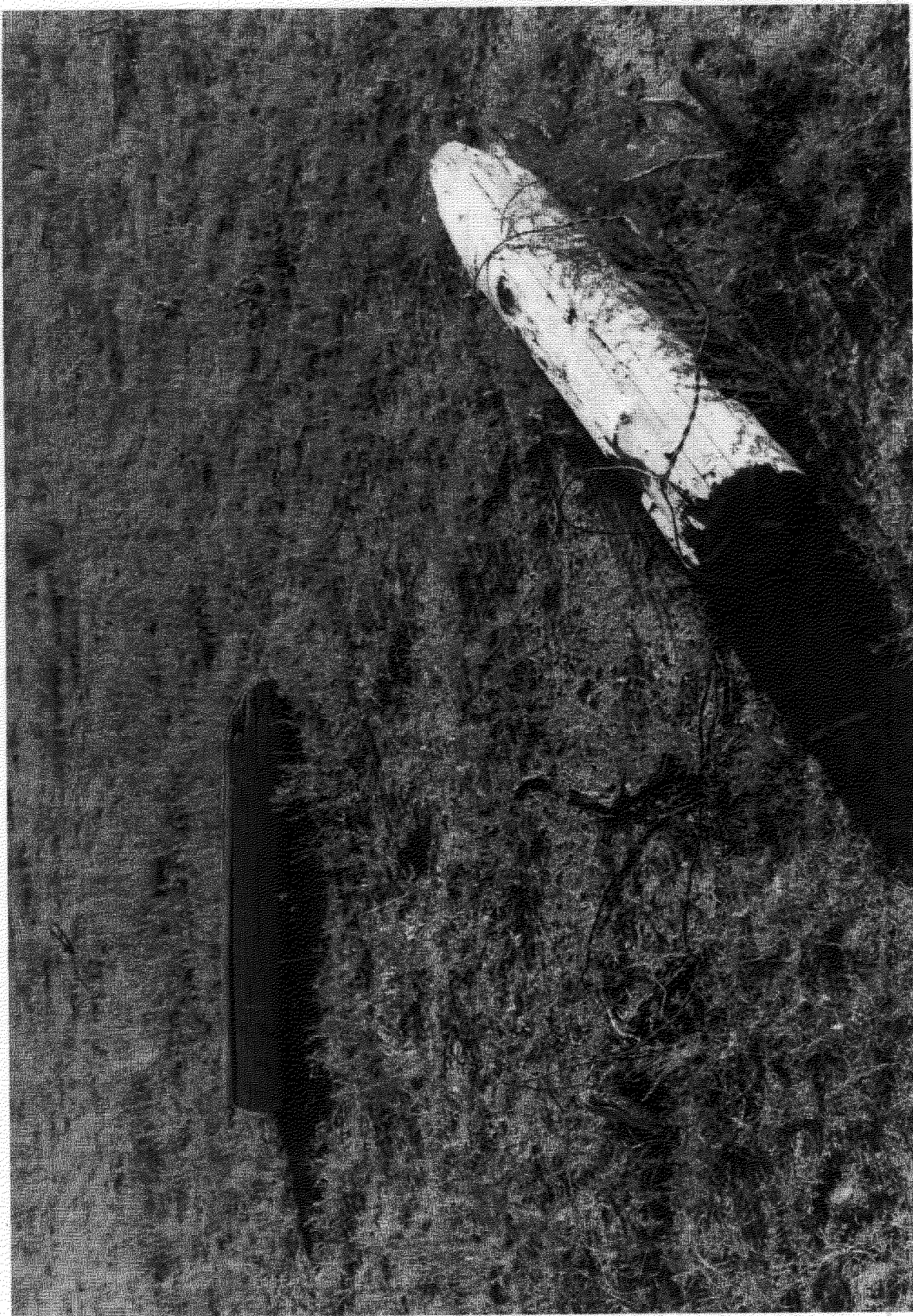


Attachment A

Photographs of Site #014



Site: 014, Debris in the Big Lost River Sinks Area
(PN99-0556-1-1)



Site: 014, Debris in the Big Lost River Sinks Area
(PN99-0556-1-3)

Attachment B

Supporting Information for Site #014

NEW SITE IDENTIFICATION

Part A – To Be Completed By Observer

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Person Initiating Report: Jacob Harris | Phone: 526-1877 |
| Contractor WAG Manager: Douglas Burns | Phone: 526-4324 |
2. Site Title: 014, Debris in the Big Lost River Sinks Area
3. Describe the conditions that indicate a possible inactive or unreported waste site. Include location and description of suspicious condition, amount or extent of condition and date observed. A location map and/or diagram identifying the site against controlled survey points or global positioning system descriptors shall be included to help with the site visit. Include any known common names or location descriptors for the waste site.
- There is debris along the western boundary line 300 yards south of Highway 33. During the July 1999 visit the observed surface debris included 5 timbers and smaller pieces of wood. The GPS coordinates for this site are E313336.578 by N775826.357. The reference number for this site is 014 and can be found on the summary map as provided.

Part B – To Be Completed By Contractor WAG Manager

4. Recommendation:
- ☒ This site meets the requirements for an inactive waste site, requires investigation, and should be included in the INEEL FFA/CO Action Plan. Proposed Operable Unit assignment is recommended to be included in the FFA/CO.
WAG: _____ Operable Unit: _____
- ☐ This site DOES NOT meet the requirements for an inactive waste site, DOES NOT require investigation and SHOULD NOT be included in the INEEL FFA/CO Action Plan.
5. Basis for the recommendation:
- The conditions that exist at this site indicate the potential for an inactive waste site according to Section 2 of MCP-3448 Reporting or Disturbance of Suspected Inactive Waste Sites.
- The basis for recommendation must include: (1) source description; (2) exposure pathways; (3) potential contaminants of concern; and (4) descriptions of interfaces with other programs, as applicable (e.g., D&D, Facility Operations, etc.)
6. Contractor WAG Manager Certification: I have examined the proposed site and the information submitted in this document and believe the information to be true, accurate, and complete. My recommendation is indicated in Section 4 above.

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____